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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/245,549 02/05/99 ZERVOS A 10287/039001

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HM12/1101

EXAMINER

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ENEWOLD, J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1655

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DATE MAILED:

11/01/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/245,549	ZERVOS, ANTONIS	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jeanine A Enewold	1655	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 June 1999.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claims 1-31 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) All b) Some * c) None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been:

1. received.

2. received in Application No. (Series Code / Serial Number) _____.

3. received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. & 119(e).

Attachment(s)

14) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 17) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.

15) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 18) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

16) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ . 19) Other: _____

Art Unit: 1655

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restriction

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-27, drawn to a method for constructing a DNA library, a method of preparing a plurality of nucleic acid insert molecules, a kit, classified in class 435, subclass 91.4.
 - II. Claim 28, drawn to an oligonucleotide primer, classified in class 536, subclass 24.33.
 - III. Claims 29-31, drawn to a method for screening a subject for the existence of a lesion in a gene encoding a particular protein, classified in class 435, subclass 6.
2. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:
 - A. Inventions (I or III) and II are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the oligonucleotide primer of Group II could be used either in a method for constructing a DNA library or in a method for screening a subject for a lesion in a gene encoding a particular protein. Further, this oligonucleotide primer could be used in a hybridization

Art Unit: 1655

reaction to detect a gene or to amplify a region of interest to compare sequences in a sequence similarity study. Therefore, the product is distinct from the methods.

B. The inventions of Group I and III are drawn to different methods having different objectives and different method steps. Group I is a method for constructing a DNA library and Group III is a method for screening a subject for the existence of a lesion in a gene. Group I is a method which includes methods of providing host cells, a vector and a nucleic acid; introducing a vector molecule into each of the host cells; introducing a nucleic acid insert molecule into each of cells; allowing recombination; thus constructing a DNA library. Group III is a method which obtains tissue from subject; preparing nucleic acid insert molecules, a library element from the tissue; providing a vector and a host cell; performing an assay which detects interaction between two proteins, thus screening a subject. Since the objectives and method steps are different for the two groups, the methods are novel and unobvious over one another.

3. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

4. A telephone call was made to Louis Myers on October 4, 1999 and October 15, 1999 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made because an oral restriction response was not made by the attorney.

Art Unit: 1655

5. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Jeanine Enewold whose telephone number is (703) 306-5817. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Thursday from 7:00AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Jones, can be reached on (703) 308-1152. The fax number for this Group is (703) 305- 3014.

Any inquiry of a general nature should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Jeanine Enewold
October 28, 1999


LISA B. ARTHUR
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1600/600